3: Anonymous U-4 (no date) 1920 RH1 Caucasia RH1

Caucasia]

1.

I. GEOGRAPHY PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL

TRANSCAUCASIA

(1) Position and Frontiers

631 Transcaucasia in Asiatic Russia consists of the 131 following six Governments, three Provinces, and two Districts:

	Square Miles.		*Square Miles.*
Black Sea (Chernomoria) . .	3,220	Elisavetopol . .	16,991
Kutais . . .	8,145	Batum . . .	2,693
Tiflis . . .	15,770	Kars . . .	7,239
Baku . . .	15,061	Daghestan . .	11,471
Erivan . . .	10,725	Zakatali . .	1,539
		Sukhum . . .	2,545
		Total . . .	95,399

131 The northern boundary (650 miles in length) runs from Cape Taman, on the eastern side of the Straits of Kerch, along the summits of the Caucasian chain as far as Donos Mta, and thence along the north-west frontier of Daghestan to the Bay of Agrakhan on the Caspian. The western frontier, about 400 miles long, is formed by the coast of the Black Sea from the peninsula of Taman to Cape Kopmush, south of Batum. The southern frontier falls into two divisions, the Russo-Turkish and the Russo-Persian. The former starts from Cape Kopmush and runs for 348 miles south-east to Mount Ararat, where the boundaries of Russian, Turkish, and Persian territory meet. The Russo-Persian boundary (350 miles) runs south-east to a few miles east of Ordubad, where it turns to the north-east as far as the village of Karakyavendikli; thence it again turns south-east and finally reaches the

131 Caspian at Fort St. Nicholas on the Astara. The eastern frontier, some 450 miles in length, is formed by the Caspian Sea from the Bay of Agrakhan to the River Astara.

Geographically Transcaucasia is so placed that, with the development of communications, it should reap considerable advantages from the commercial development both of northern Persia and of north-eastern Asia Minor.

(2) Surface, Coasts, and River System

Surface

133 Transcaucasia is divided across the centre from west to east by the two valleys of the Rion and Kura, the head-waters of which are separated by the low ridge of the Suram Mountains, connecting the Caucasus with the Armenian Highlands. These valleys run west and east into the Black and Caspian Seas respectively. They are roughly equivalent to the Governments of Kutais (the Rion valley), Tiflis, Elisavetopol, and Baku. The Governments of Kutais and Tiflis and parts of Batum form the region known as Georgia.

The Rion valley is narrowed in its upper part by the mountainous district of Svanetia, but begins to broaden west of Kutais, and becomes a flat, marshy plain. The Kura valley narrows about Tiflis, and then widens till, at the Mughan steppe, it is over 100 miles broad. The valley floor slopes gently east from 1,200 ft. at Tiflis to 500 ft. in the middle of its course, and 85 ft. below sea level at the Caspian. The only interruption is caused by a plateau of between 2,000 and 3,000 ft. along the southern foot-hills of the eastern Caucasus in the region known as Kakhetia.

134 The soil in the Rion and upper Kura valleys is extraordinarily fertile. On the southern slope of the Caucasus, in fact, almost every available patch of ground is successfully utilized for agriculture, even up to a height of 7,000–8,000 ft. Most of the steppes in the lower Kura valley are too dry to be cultivated without the aid of irrigation.

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(population in 1913, 237,000). Other important towns 361
are *Novorossiisk* (66,700), *Elisavetopol* (63,400 in 1910), 161
Kutais (53,900), *Batum* (46,000), and *Erivan* (34,000).
For further particulars concerning these see below,
pp. 42 and 77.

Movement

Recent statistics are not available, but the annual 161
rate of increase can be roughly estimated at 60,000. 165
It is probable that the Armenians increase at a more rapid rate than the other nationalities in Transcaucasia. The death-rate, particularly among children, is certainly high; for this the unhealthy climate in the west, the rigorous winters in the east and central parts, and the ignorance of the natives are responsible.

Accurate statistics of emigration are not available. 167
Since the great migration of the Cherkess (to Anatolia) and other Mohammedan tribes (to Turkey), which depopulated much of the western coast in the latter half of the nineteenth century, emigration has tended to be spasmodic. A certain number of Armenians emigrate to America. Many tribes still live what is practically a nomadic life; and for those who are not too proud to do manual labour the towns form a continual attraction.

Immigrants are largely Russians, both official and non-official. The latter come very largely from South Russia and settle in the central governments or, for industrial purposes, at Baku. There is a small annual influx of foreigners, but not to the same extent as in Ciscaucasia. Periodically there have been Armenian immigrations from Turkish Armenia, though these have lately been regarded unfavourably by the Government.

CISCAUCASIA

(1) Position and Frontiers

Ciscaucasia, a district of European Russia, is the 131
northern part of the region of Caucasia. It is bounded on the west by the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov;

3: Anonymous U-4 (no date) 1920 RH1 Caucasia RH1
CISCAUCASIA

131 on the south by the Caucasus and the Province of Daghestan; on the east by the Caspian Sea; and on the north by the Kuma-Manych depression, a chain of narrow shallow lakes and river beds filled at certain seasons with water, connecting the Manych, a tributary of the Don, with the Kuma, which flows into the Caspian Sea.

(2) Surface, Coasts, and River System

Surface

133 The parts of the Caucasus range which are included in Ciscaucasia are (1) the *Black Sea ridge*, 155 miles in length, stretching from Anapa on the coast to Mount Oshten (9,369 ft.). These mountains are covered with thick woods. (2) The *Kuban Caucasus*, 120 miles in length, which extends from Mount Oshten to Mount Elbruz. Here the heights vary from 3,000 to 6,000 ft. (3) The *Central Caucasus*, which contains various subdivisions, included for the greater part in Transcaucasia.

[487] The passes across the Caucasus from Ciscaucasia to Transcaucasia are few and are at high altitudes, varying from 9,000 to 12,000 ft. above sea-level.

The northern foot-hills of the Caucasus form on both sides of the River Terek the mountainous region of the Kabarda. North-eastwards from this stretches highland country, which merges into a depression northwards from Stavropol. Between these two there rises the isolated mass of the Beshtau Mountains.

The plains of Ciscaucasia slope gently from the base of the Caucasus Mountains towards the Kuma-Manych depression. In the centre is the Stavropol plateau, which varies in height from 2,000 to 2,500 ft. and separates the tributaries of the River Kuban from those of the Terek and the Kuma. Towards the foot-hills of the Caucasus the plateau is covered with dense forests; on the west it merges into steppes or ends in the reedy marshes of the Kuban delta. In the north

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5: Allen H-4 (no date) 1923 RHI Caucasia

7:Columbia U. S-4,5 1956 RH1 Caucasia
RH1

Major Boundary Changes in the Caucasus Region since 1950

631
131

Rostov Oblast

On January 6, 1954, Rostov Oblast was greatly reduced in area with the creation of a separate Kamensk Oblast, which was carved out of the northern part of Rostov Oblast. The reduced Rostov Oblast extends as far north as the Don River, but includes the industrial Rostov-Novocherkassk-Taganrog area north of the Don.

Stavropol'Krai -- Astrakhan' Oblast

On February 28, 1951, Stavropol'Krai annexed the newly created Chernozemel'skii Raion, carved out of the Stepnoi Raion of Astrakhan' Oblast. On January 14, 1952, Stavropol'Krai annexed the rest of Stepnoi Raion of Astrakhan' Oblast. The total area thus transferred from Astrakhan' Oblast to Stavropol' Krai is 22,500 square kilometers.

Georgian SSR -- RSFSR

On March 14, 1955, the Georgian SSR returned to the RSFSR the Klukhorskii Raion. This raion was set up within Georgia in September, 1944, out of the former Karachai Autonomous Oblast of Stavropol'Krai and the southwest corner of the Kabardian ASSR. The entire raion was returned in March, 1955,

131 to Stavropol'Krai. On May 26, 1955, the
131 Ialbuzi sel'sovet (village council), corresponding to the former southwest corner of the Kabardian ASSR, was transferred from Stavropol'Krai to the Kabardian ASSR.

Temporary Oblasts and Okrugs in Georgia, Azerbaizhan, Armenia and Daghestan

The periods of these areas are as follows:

1. Tbilisi and Kutaisi Oblasts of Georgia: Nov. 5, 1951 to April 23, 1953

2. Baku and Giandzha Oblasts of Azerbaidzhan: March 14, 1952 to April 23, 1953

3. Okrugs in Armenia: January 17, 1952 to April 18, 1953

4. Okrugs in Daghestan: early 1952 to April 28, 1953.

21: Kolarz J-4 (no date) 1952 R1 Soviet Union R2
[Osset] Caucasia RH1
[Kabardin]

that three districts were to be added to the Northern Ossetin A.S.S.R. in their entirety as well as parts of three other districts. The major portion of this new Ossetin territory was sliced off the Stavropol Territory, but a section of it came from Ingushetia, which had occupied the western border area of the Chechen-Ingush A.S.S.R. In this way the Northern Ossetin A.S.S.R. grew from 2,390 square miles before the war to 3,250 square miles. This territorial change altered the ethnographic character of the Republic, for together with its new territories Ossetia received a fairly large number of Russians who mostly lived in the two new 'Ossetin' towns, Mozdok and Malgobek. Russian communists thus obtained a greater say in the running of the Northern Ossetin A.S.S.R. at the expense of their Ossetin comrades. In the small Northern Ossetin Republic of the inter-war period (an Autonomous Province until 1936) the Ossetins had formed 84 per cent of the entire population against 13·4 per cent Russians and Ukrainians. In 'Greater Ossetia' however, the percentage of the Ossetins may have dropped to about 60 per cent while the Slav share may have increased accordingly.

In addition to the territorial expansion of Ossetia the Soviet Government made still another 'concession' to the Ossetins. The capital of the republic, Vladikavkaz, was allowed to assume the Ossetin name of Dzaudzhikau – a worthless gesture since Russian predominance in the town was not affected by the change of its name. Dzaudzhikau remained that which was implied in its former name of Vladikavkaz, meaning 'Ruler of the Caucasus'. It continues to be one of the centres from which Russian administration exercises its control over the mountaineers.

RE-EDUCATION OF THE KABARDINIANS

The Chechens and the Ossetins represent the two extremes in the attitude of the local Caucasus peoples towards the Russians – the most irreconcilable resistance in the case of the Chechens, and the most far-reaching appeasement in the case of the Ossetins. The Kabardinians, forming part of the once powerful Circassian group which had been broken up by Russian colonization and conquest, stand between these extremes. In the Second World War their attitude was not beyond reproach. The Kabardinians had their deserters and traitors, but the Soviet Government did not consider they were bad enough to justify the abolition of their Autonomous Republic.

During the important administrative reorganization which took place in the Caucasus towards the end of the Second World War, the Kabardinian A.S.S.R. was diminished by only 300 square miles, which were incorporated into Georgia. This, however, was not meant to be a punishment for the Kabardinians, but was directed against the Balkars who had inhabited the area in question. The small administrative reform

[Ot. category 116, pp. 185 ff., R1 Sov. Union — Analyst]

23: Shabad N-4 (no date) 1951 R1 Soviet Union R1
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The Kuban' steppes are among the chief grain-producing regions the USSR. The fertile black earth and sufficient rainfall favor the extensive cultivation of cereals such as wheat, barley, and corn, while of the industrial crops sunflower, cotton, *kenaf*, soy and castor beans are most important. Rice is grown in the swampy delta of the Kuban' River. In the drier eastern portion of the steppes and in the mountainous section of the Northern Caucasus the raising of livestock and allied activities are the main occupations of the rural population.

The industries are concerned primarily with the extraction and refining of petroleum (Groznyy, Makhachkala, and Maykop), the mining of polymetallic ores and molybdenum, and the production of hydroelectric power. In the steppes rural industries process the local products and produce vegetable oils, alcohol, sugar, and starches. Large cement mills at Novorossiysk are notable. Fishing and canning are well developed along the coast. An important role is played by health and tourist resorts, notably Kislovodsk and its satellites in the foothills of the Caucasus and the subtropical resorts of Sochi and Matsesta along the Black Sea littoral.

Two main rail lines serve the steppes of the region. Tikhoretsk is the junction for these two railways coming from Stalingrad and Rostov. The Stalingrad line passes through Krasnodar and on to the Black Sea port of Novorossiysk, while the Rostov trunk railroad runs parallel to the northern foothills of the Greater Caucasus and along the Caspian Sea to Baku. A line branching off at Armavir reaches the Black Sea oil port of Tuapse and continues along the coast past Sochi to the Georgian SSR through a rail link completed during the Second World War. Transportation across the Greater Caucasus range is maintained by three important highways: the Sukhumi military road (Cherkessk-Sukhumi), the Ossetian military road (Alagir-Kutaisi), and the Georgian military road (Dzaudzhikau-Tbilisi).

Rostov Oblast

Capital, Rostov on the Don; Area, 40,300, population, 2,550,000

Rostov Oblast is astride of the lower Don River, within the bend of the river in proximity to the Volga near Stalingrad. The southern section of the oblast is drained mainly by the Sal and the Manych, two left affluents of the Don. According to its relief, the region may be divided into the eastern end of the Donets ridge, the southeastern outliers of the Central Russian upland in the north and the wide Don steppe in the south.

23: Shabad N-4 (no date) 1951 Rl Soviet Union Rl
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Rossel'mash agricultural machinery works, the city became an industrial center of first rank. It is the site of an auto-assembly plant, airplane factory, shipyards and machine-tool works, and produces a wide range of products, including foods (flour, vegetable oil, meat, canned goods), paints, cement, glass, shoes, furniture, and cigarettes. The city suffered considerably during the Second World War. Across the Don River lies Bataysk, a rail junction and aircraft center with two large airfields and repair shops. Northeast of Rostov, on the Aksay, a branch of the Don, lies the former center of the Don Cossacks, Novocherkassk, at present a machine-manufacturing city, with locomotive works.

Taganrog, the second city of the oblast, is a major coal and grain-shipping port on the Sea of Azov. A foremost industrial center, it has metallurgical and pipe-rolling mills, one of the largest boiler works of the USSR, and produces machines for the food and chemical industries. It manufactures agricultural implements, instruments, and shoes, and has an extensive food-processing industry. Shipbuilding and aircraft manufacturing are also important.

Kamensk-Shakhtinskiy, on the Northern Donets River and the Voronezh-Rostov railroad, has chemical works and lumber mills and produces flour and alcohol.

Shakhty (formerly called Aleksandrovsk-Grushevskiy) is the largest coal-mining center in this section of the Donets Basin. It has a 90,000 kw. power station in its eastern suburb of Artemovskiy, textile, leather and food industries. Its southern suburb, Kamenolomni, has stone quarries (for which it is named) and metalworks. Another coal-mining center, Novoshakhtinsk (until 1939, Komintern), lies west of Shakhty.

Krasnodar Kray

Capital, Krasnodar; area, 32,800, population, 3,000,000

Krasnodar Kray occupies the western section of the Northern Caucasus adjoining the Sea of Azov and includes a short section of Transcaucasia along the Black Sea littoral. The presence within a relatively restricted area of maritime and high-altitude influences bring about a great variety of natural conditions and economic activities. Thus, the forested slopes of the Greater Caucasus are in sharp contrast to the treeless level steppes beyond the Kuban' River, and the subtropical Black Sea coast, protected from the northerly winter winds, is opposed to the continental climate of the remainder of the region.

The entire kray, with the exception of the mountains in the south and

2: Byhan--ii E-4 (no date) 1926 RI13 Abkhaz RI13
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C
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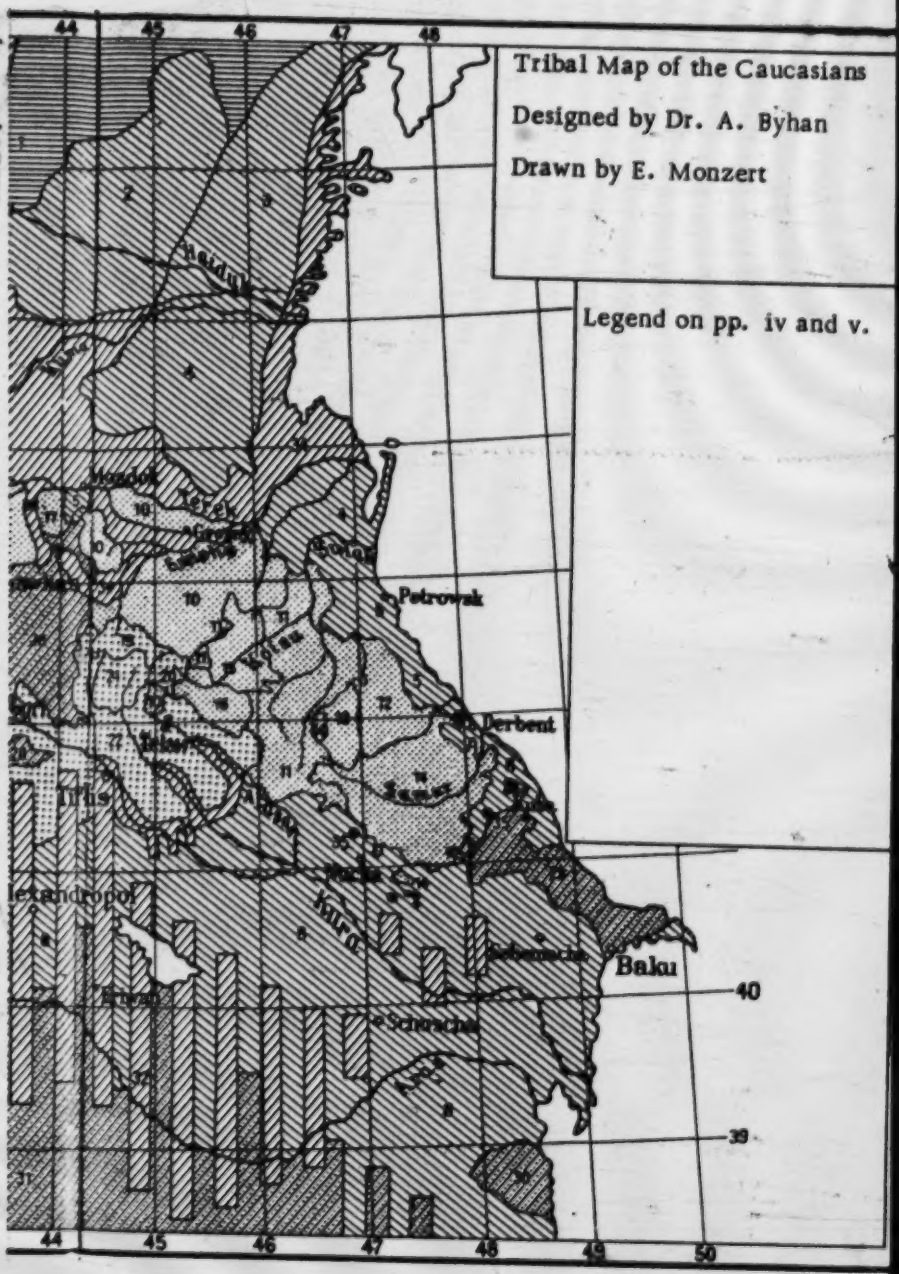

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TURKS:

2 Turkmen /Turcoman/
3 Kirgis /Kirgiz/
4 Nogai
5 Kymyk /Kumyk/
6 Taulu
7 Karatschai /Karachai/
8 Aserbaidshan Tatar /Azerbaijani Tatar/
9 Osman

CAUCASIANS:

10 Tschetschen /Chechen/
LESGHIER: /Lezgin/
11 Awar /Avar/
12 Dargin /[illegible]/
13 Lak /Lek/
14 Kürin /Kurin/
15 Andi
16 Dido /Didol/

17 Tscherkess /Cherkess/
18 Abchas /Abkhaz/

KHARTHWELIER /Karthvelians/

19 Chewsur /Khevsur/
20 Thusch /Tush/
21 Pschaw /Pshav/
22 Georgier /Grusians/
23 Jmerier /Imeretin/
24 Swan
25 Mingrel
26 Gurier /Gurian/
27 Las /Laz/

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28 Ossen /Osset/
29 Tat
30 Talysch /Talysh/
31 Kurd

32 Armenians
33 Greeks
34 Russians

SEMITES:

35 Mountain Jews